



State of Louisiana

Department of Health and Hospitals Immunization Program

To: Vaccines for Children Provider

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Immunization Program

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Subject: Vaccine Ordering Update

As you know, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) restructured how it distributes VFC publicly-funded vaccines to providers to improve efficiency and accountability, reduce costs, and enhance CDC's ability to respond to public health emergencies including shortages, natural disasters, and disease outbreaks. Thanks to your support, this effort has been extremely successful. One of the key steps you took at CDC's and our request was to start placing VFC publicly-funded vaccine orders on a set order frequency cycle, based upon your publicly-funded vaccine usage and storage capacity.

CDC now has more current and extensive data than what was available a couple years ago. As a result, we are going to "tweak" the existing order frequencies for some providers over the next few weeks. We will begin following an industry best practice method, Economic Order Quantity (EOQ), to manage publicly-funded vaccine orders and distribution more effectively. EOQ balances provider order size, order frequency, the timing of orders, and storage and handling to minimize costs and improve efficiencies as orders flow through the system.

What does this mean for you? Some of you will be asked to:

- Change how frequently you order VFC vaccines
- Order VFC vaccines during a certain two-week order window during the month (first or second half of the month).

In the next few weeks, you will receive a follow-up letter letting you know if your order frequency will change and which two-week order window during the month (first or second half of the month) you will be asked to place your order. You will receive your calendar and updated ordering form.

Thank you again for your support.